



International

Prince Harry wears dance cap after school-leaving exams

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DMK will support Vajpayee gov't, numbers back NDA

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Times Sport

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18

2003

Hazare ends fast on CM's assurance

Times News Network

Mumbai: Nobel social activist Anna Hazare on Sunday ended his 21-day fast after the Maharashtra government gave him a written assurance that it would comply with almost all his demands, seeking a radical change in administrative work and curbs on corruption in public offices.

He said the ministers' resignations could trigger the collapse of his government. If that happened, he said, there would be no one to fulfil my demands." Mr Hazare said in his brief address to the 300-strong gathering that had assembled at the site of his protest at Azadi Maidan on Sunday.

Mr Hazare, who has lost four 'obsession' August 9, displayed symptoms of jaundice, according to his physician Dr D.D. Pote. "His liver and kidney functions are affected and his general condition is weak," he said.

Food and civil supplies minister Suresh Lam, who was also on fast demanding a probe against Mr Hazare's erstwhile alleged financial irregularities, had called off his protest on Sunday.

NEWS DIGEST



A Thai singer... investment

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Pak charge refuted

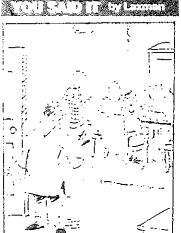
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K for Kirron in Khamosh..L for Leopard in Locarno



Romanian actress Diana Dumbrava (left) and Indian actress Kirron Kher pose with their Leopard awards at the 58th International Film Festival of Locarno in Switzerland on Saturday. Kher (for Khamosh) shared the award for best actress with Dumbrava (for Maria) and American Holly Hunter (for Turner).

'Khamosh.. must be shown in India'

Mumbai: The film 'Khamosh..', which won the Leopard award for best actress at the 58th International Film Festival of Locarno in Switzerland on Saturday, must be shown in India, says a group of film lovers.

Sathe, Salve quit Cong for Vidarbha

Times News Network

Nagpur: New Delhi: Former Union ministers Vasant Sathe and N.K.P. Salve resigned from the Congress on Sunday and announced their plan to form a political party to promote the interests of a separate Vidarbha region.

Old warhorses



N.K.P. Salve Vasant Sathe

We decided to set up a separate party, Vidarbha Parva, to represent the interests of the region, said N.K.P. Salve. He said he had resigned from the Congress on Sunday and announced his plan to form a political party to promote the interests of a separate Vidarbha region.

Mr Sathe, who is recovering from heart surgery, is the first to announce his resignation from the Congress. He said he had resigned from the Congress on Sunday and announced his plan to form a political party to promote the interests of a separate Vidarbha region.

E-surveillance comes to Parliament House

By Smita Gupta

Times News Network

New Delhi: Congress members in Parliament House will have to face a new system in place, which will monitor their activities on the Internet. The system will be installed in the Parliament House by the end of the month.

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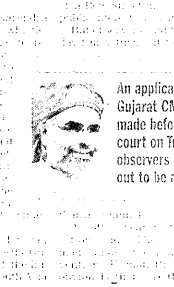
Social activist Anna Hazare breaks his fast on Sunday.

Rights group seeks Modi's arrest

By Roshnee Z Ahmed

Times News Network

London: A group of human rights activists has demanded the arrest of Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi, saying he is responsible for the violence in the state.



Narendra Modi

An application for the Gujarat CM's arrest will be made before a British court on Tuesday, but observers say it may turn out to be a mere gimmick.

Me Mumbaikar: English edges out Marathi

By Shalini Muralidhar

Times News Network

Mumbai: The heart of Marathi Mumbai is experiencing a shift in language preference. English is increasingly being used in schools and offices, while Marathi is being pushed to the margins.

The shift in language preference is a result of the increasing use of English in schools and offices. This has led to a decline in the use of Marathi, which is the primary language of the city.

The BMC system is relatively inflexible, private schools are not allowed to teach in Marathi, Hindi and Urdu. BMC schools are seeing a steady decline, while Gopuram is almost completely gone.

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Hoon may 'fall on his sword' in Kelly affair

London: British defence secretary Geoff Hoon has indicated that he might put in his papers, owning responsibility for the death of David Kelly, the scientist at the centre of claims that Downing Street exaggerated the case for war on Iraq, media reports on Sunday.

According to a report in the *Sunday Telegraph*, Mr Hoon's telephone colleagues last week told him that he expected to have to "fall on his sword" over the affair. The Hutton inquiry, currently probing the death of Kelly, was told last week that Mr Hoon had agreed his most senior civil servant's request that the case must be covered by a public inquiry by the Commons Defence Affairs committee.

Indian seeks seat on US city council

Los Angeles: That Indians are an important ethnic group in the US is a fact which has been demonstrated by a number of examples. The latest being the election of Mr. Rameshwar Prasad, a Hindu, to sit on the MAK (Municipal Association of Kings) board of directors who are running the city council for the city of Los Angeles.

Mr Prasad, who is a resident of Fairfield, California, is a member of the city council and is expected to be elected to the city council in the next election.

But the city council favoured limited growth and is pushing a measure in the November election that would give veto power to the council over any annexation of land that would increase the size of the city.

Mr. Prasad promises to help small farmers who find it unprofitable to continue working on smaller farms in Fairfield, to offer tax incentives for businesses that want to relocate.

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'Lakhani is under probe by Kenyan govt': Hassan Lakhani, the 64-year-old British national of Indian origin arrested last week and taken for allegedly smuggling arms and ammunition into the United States, has been under investigation by the Kenyan government for arms, for diamonds, deals and for supplying weapons to Al Qaeda cells, a media report said on Sunday.

According to a probe by *The Sunday Times*, Lakhani was reportedly linked with a notorious arms dealer who has been described as "notorious" by the British government for supplying weapons to rebel forces in Sierra Leone. "It has also emerged that Lakhani engaged

in a number of arms deals with the British government for arms, for diamonds, deals and for supplying weapons to Al Qaeda cells, a media report said on Sunday.

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Geoff Hoon

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Nepal govt, rebels resume peace talks

By Sunil Prasad
From New Delhi

Kathmandu: The Nepalese government and the Maoist rebels have resumed peace talks after a two-month hiatus. The government has agreed to a number of demands made by the rebels, including the release of political prisoners and the formation of a new government.

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